

CATALOGUE
OF
HARD WOODS

collected and exhibited

BY

NATALIO A. CERIMEDO

(BROKER AND WOOD SURVEYOR)

25 de Mayo Street, No. 150, 158

AND

wrought in the workshops

OF

JOAQUIN FIGUERAS

Crucero Street 1257, Boca

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINE REPUBLIC

BUENOS AYRES

Imprenta y Litografía de KIDO Y Co. Limitada, Calle San Martin 351.



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NATALIO A. CERIMEDO

(Broker and Wood measurer)

NOTE. The names of most of the woods given in this catalogue are local, and the majority of them of indian origin.

- Cilbrant*
- Nº 1 — **Lapacho** from Villa Concepcion,
Republic of Paraguay.
» 16 — do from Alto Paraná, Chaco,
Argentine Republic.
» 31 — do from Alto Paraná, Chaco,
Republic of Paraguay.
» 47 — **Lapachillo** from Tucuman,
Argentine Republic.

This wood is much used for spokes of wheels, shafts for carriages and carts, gates and bars for wire-fences, ship-building etc: being very hard and durable and not liable to suffer in the least when exposed to the weather.

It is very abundant in the Argentine Republic as well as in Paraguay.

65330

- No 2 — **Timbó** from Alto Paraná, Chaco,
Argentine Republic.
» 39 — do from Santa Fé, Mal Abrigo,
Argentine Republic.
» 40 — **Pacará** from Tucuman,
Argentine Republic.

This wood, owing to its lightness and sound quality, is used for the interior of furniture instead of pine, as well as for tables and turned pieces. It is also suitable for inside doors and windows, for which purposes it is in demand. It is easier to be wrought than pine, being also of a good dark colour and more durable. There is great abundance of this wood in the Argentine Republic.

- Nº 3 — **Peterebí** from Alto Paraná, Chaco,
Argentine Republic.

Is excellent for furniture and cabinet work. It is now being much used here for oars, paddles for canoes, and also, due to its handsome natural colour and grain, it can be used to imitate the fine foreign imported woods, such as Teak, Italian walnut, etc.

- » 4 — **Virapoina** from Alto Paraná, Chaco,
Republic of Paraguay.

It is in great demand for lining the inside of wooden houses and is similar to Spruce pine; but if left much exposed to the sun and rain it is liable to warp and open.

- » 5 — **Quebracho Colorado** from Corrientes, Chaco, Argentine Rep.
» 10 — do do from Empedrado, Corrientes, Argentine Rep.

No 26 — **Quebracho Colorado** from Recon-
 quista, Corrientes, Arg. Rep.
 » 50 — do do from Santiago
 del Estero, Argentine Repub.

Of this wood "Quebracho" I will give a longer and more detailed description, as it well deserves. For many uses it is infinitely better than iron in every sense of the word, as I shall prove by experiments made and by practical demonstration, to wit: being employed as rafters for flat roofed houses and for all kinds of edifices it has given the very best results, not being flexible, does not bend or splinter; it has more resistance than iron when coming in contact with damp, as rafters made of this metal soon oxidize when exposed to it, whereas those of this wood do not in the least suffer. In buildings of 4, 5 or more stories, iron is used as rafters between each, but on the last, or roof "Quebracho" ones are placed, or if not, of "Urunday", which are equal in strength and durability to the former, not being liable to bend or move which occurs with iron ones.

The reason why building contractors make more frequent use of iron rafters in preference to those of this excellent wood, can only be attributed to economy of expenditure on their part to the detriment of the proprietors, as I shall, in a few words, endeavour to explain;—iron rafters brought from Europe, for which an equivalent in gold has to be exported to cover their value, are preferred by contractors as they come with the double T made, thereby lessening the labour and cost of construction of the vaulted roofs. These gentlemen on sending in estimates generally state that they will place iron rafters instead of wooden ones on the roofs, leading the proprietors to believe that they are much stronger, solid and durable than those made of "Quebracho" or "Urunday", which is erroneous as I shall prove by facts not by vapid assertions.

Iron rafters sweat and therefore stain and injure the ceilings, whereas "Quebracho" and "Urunday" ones do not.

Iron rafters in summer do not undergo any change or movement and remain stationary, but in winter the contrary occurs. I will now compare iron with "Quebracho" in the event of fire taking place. We have witnessed here in Buenos Ayres, the Federal Capital, many fires, in which buildings constructed with iron rafters and pillars were completely destroyed and others in which the wood I am speaking of was used, and in every case the latter has always triumphed, as I will shew. In all edifices

built with iron, when a fire has taken place, the iron rafters have bent and twisted in the shape of coskscrews and have injured the brickwork, displacing it in such a manner as to leave it utterly useless and rendering it necessary to be rebuilt; whereas those in which this wood had been used this did not occur: in proof of which the case of the depots of the Catalina's Company can be cited, and which were full of inflammable liquids when this great fire took place, and when extinguished it was found that the "Quebracho" and "Urunday" rafters and columns had been burnt to an inch in depth all round, the heart or centre remaining perfectly sound, the brickwork not having suffered in the least. Many persons witnessed this after the calamity and are cognizant of it in its minutest details.

It is unrivalled for tanning purposes, being excellent for every class of hide or skin, it contains an extremely large proportion of the active principle for this industry: its sawdust has given most satisfactory results in whatever part of the world it has been tried for the purpose aforesaid. One hundred to one hundred and fifty thousand tons of "Quebracho Colorado" logs are annually exported for this trade alone.

It is far superior to other woods for rail and tramway sleepers of which we have abundant proofs, even after being in use over forty or fifty years. Beneath the soil it does not weaken or decay in the least, there being, consequently, no necessity to change sleepers of this wood with the frequency that is called for in the case of other timber or other materials being employed. This has been ascertained on the various railways in the Republic that have made use of this wood for sleepers, with the most satisfactory results, when a line is desired to be constructed firm and solid.

For wharves and moles it cannot be surpassed, it petrifies in the water and becomes like a rock and not liable to movement of any kind. It is likewise most valuable for ship building, there being afloat several vessels constructed with this wood, over thirty years old, and, even so at the present time, they are classified A.I. by various Insurance Companies, being aware of the lasting qualities of "Quebracho" and "Urunday". I could also enumerate other work in which it can be satisfactorily employed; having only stated those in which it is most severely tested, leaving out lighter work in which it can be used with even better results.

Nº 6 — **Quebracho Blanco** from Empedrado,
Argentine Republic.

No 43 — **Quebracho Blanco** from Santiago del Estero, Argent. Rep.

Both are alike in quality, although from different zones. It is used here for cart and carriage hubs as well as for felloes of carriage wheels, being very solid and strong; it is also useful for teeth of cog-wheels and for turning small pieces, and for other similar work.

» 7 — **Inciense Colorado**, from The Chaco, Argentine Republic.

It is much used for stairs and bannisters, also to imitate mahogany for which it is eminently adapted, owing to its colour, grain, pore and other qualities. Fine furniture is made of it very similar in appearance to mahogany.

Nº 8 — **Urunday** from Villa Concepción, Republic of Paraguay.

» 32 — do from Corrientes, Argentine Republic.

» 21 — do from Formosa, Argentine Republic.

Where great strength is required it is used as rafters, columns and such like in heavy work and buildings, the same as "Quebracho Colorado"; but it does not contain the tanning principles of the latter; its grain and colour, however, admirably suit it for columns and furniture, being at the same time nearly as hard and strong as "Quebracho Colorado".

N 9 — **Laurel** from Rio de Oro, Chaco, Argentine Republic.

» 15 — do from Pilar, Republic of Paraguay.

» 57 — do from Mal Abrigo, Argentine Republic.

No 51 — **Laurel** from Córdoba,
Argentine Republic.

Well adapted for ship-building, for light felloes of wheels, as well as for furniture and mouldings, being suitable for nearly every kind of work. Exposed to the weather it is far superior to any kind of pine, however strong it may be : boats and canoes are made of it, in the construction of which it has given splendid results.

Nº 11 — **Guayaiví** from Rio de Oro, Chaco,
Argentine Republic.

This wood, owing to its handsome grain and good quality, is much used for high class furniture and fancy articles, for which purposes it is in great demand.

Nº 12 — **Virapitá** from Alto Paraná, Chaco,
Argentine Republic.

» 17 — do from Villa Concepción,
Republic of Paraguay.

Very much used for hubs of wheels and felloes of same, for bars, futtocks for ships and skirtings and similar work for which it is much sought after.

Nº 13 — **Cedro (cedar)** from Alto Paraná,
Chaco, Argentine Republic.

Used for furniture, cabinet and other carpentry work for which it is admirably suited.

Nº 52 — **Cedro (cedar)** from Tucuman,
Argentine Republic.

The uses to which it is applied are similar to the foregoing; but it is not so handsome in colour or of equal duration, being more porous and less heavy,

Nº 24 — **Cedro Ná.**

This is of a darker colour than the preceding Nº 13; but stronger and more brittle; if obtained with straight veins it can be used the same as mahogany for carved and other fine work.

Nº 14 — **Curupay** from Villa Concepción,
Chaco, Argentine Republic.

» 19 — do from Alto Paraná,
Argentine Republic.

» 29 — do

Much used in buildings the same as Quebracho Colorado and Urunday, but it suffers when exposed to damp or water and liable to movement. It is useful for rafters, furniture and other cabinet work, billiard tables and, in fact, for every kind of wood-work not exposed to the weather : it is easily wrought and the uses to which it can be put are very numerous.

Nº 18 — **Urunday Pará.**

The qualities of this wood are similar to those of Curupay Nos 14 and 19 and is much used here for mouldings, due to its straight veins and facility for being worked.

Nº 20 — **Palo Santo** from the Chaco, Argentine
Republic and Republic of Paraguay.

This is a very hard wood; it is used for making blocks and pulleys and fine furniture, being much sought after not only for its special colour but also for its fragrance which it never loses. It is very much in request, for high artistic work such as carved cabinets and other articles of like nature, there being no wood to compare to it.

Nº 23 — **Nandubay** from the Chaco,
Argentine Republic.

This is excellent wood for posts for wire fencing and for which purpose it is being very much used here; it grows low but very corpulent, for which reason it is admirably suited for the aforesaid. Due to its grain and colour it can be utilised for furniture, but it is somewhat brittle; it not only resists deterioration by damp, but when buried under ground instead of rotting becomes petrified. As a combustible for boilers it has been tested that it contains only one third less caloric than Cardiff coal.

Nº 25 — **Lapacho Negro** from the Chaco,
Argentine Republic.

This wood can be used for the same purposes as the Lapacho catalogued under Nos 1, 16, 31, and 47, only that it is more solid and harder for every kind of work and of longer duration.

Nº 27 — **Guayacan** from Corrientes, Chaco,
Argentine Republic.

This wood is very hard or, more correctly speaking, extremely hard, heavy and solid: it is used for making walking-sticks, teeth for cog-wheels as well as for furniture. It is very hard to work, but it can compare favourably with Quebracho, Urunday and other woods owing to its good colour, strength and durability.

Nº 28 — **Taperigua** from the Chaco,
Argentine Republic.

Very similar to Lapacho, having the same good qualities; it is excellent for shaftings of carriages and carts and other work that requires elasticity in the material employed, possessing this in a high degree and being at the same time very strong.

Nº 30 — **Viraró** from the Chaco, Argentine
Republic and Republic of Paraguay.

No 40 — **Virarú** from Tucuman,
Argentine Republic.

Useful for carriage and cart wheels, for wagons, trains and railways, as well as for other kinds of carpentry work, also for mouldings and veneers for furniture and for an infinity of other articles. Its qualities may be summed up as follows : solidity, flexibility, good colour and strength.

Nº 41 — **Cebil** from Córdoba,
Argentine Republic.

It can be applied to the same uses as those for which Curupay Nos 14, 19 and 29 are adapted. Only that for work exposed to rain and sun it is not of such long duration, owing to its having very open pores; not being put to such use it is wood that can be advantageously employed.

Nº 33 — **Algarrobo** from Corrientes, Chaco,
Argentine Republic.

» 49 — do from Córdoba,
Argentine Republic.

Much used for felloes of wheels, door frames, futtocks for shipbuilding, and numerous other work as well as for carving. The trees from which this wood is taken are remarkable for the different forms in which they grow.

Nº 34 — **Canela** from Villa Concepción,
Republic of Paraguay.

For fine furniture, and for every kind of fancy and artistic work in which wood can be used, due to its straight fibre, good colour and grain, for such it is sought after.

Nº 35 — **Inga** from Mal Abrigo, Chaco,
Argentine Republic.

No 38 — **Timbo Atá** from Mal Abrigo, Chaco,
Argentine Republic.

» 36 — **Virapitá Miní** from Mal Abrigo,
Chaco, Argentine Republic.

Very good for bars for wire-fencing, and also where boards of large size are required, such as sheds etc.: but in these cases it has to be covered with paint or coal tar so as not to suffer from the weather, the same as spruce pine or white ditto.

Nº 42 — **Palo Lanza** from Tucuman,
Argentine Republic.

For the cartwrights' and carriage maker's trade it is very useful, as well as for shafts, either heavy or light, the same as Taperigua' wood.

Nº 44 — **Tala** from the Province of Tucuman,
Argentine Republic.

This wood is excellent for adze, hatched and hammer handles and such like, as well as for staves for barrels, casks etc. in the making of which it has given very satisfactory results.

Nº 45 — **Tipa** from the Province of Tucuman,
Argentine Republic.

Can be used for all kinds of carpenter's work, furniture and to replace Maple and similar wood imported from abroad, experiments having been made with it here with splendid results, proof of which is the general acceptance it has in the market.

Nº 48 — **Nogal (Walnut)** from Tucuman,
Argentine Republic.

This wood can be used for high class work of various kinds, and competes or rather is equal in every sense of the word to its name-sake, imported from the United States. This has been successfully proved here and it is now much sought after.

Nº 53 — **Alamo (Poplar)** from Buenos Ayres,
Argentine Republic.

» 55 — do de la Carolina from Buenos
Ayres, Argentine Republic.

» 56 — do Rio Cuarto, from Province of
Córdoba, Argentine Republic.

This wood is used to replace Spruce pine with the best results in common work, being easily wrought and very suitable for boxes and cases.

No 54 — **Cochucho**, from the Province of Tucuman,
Argentine Republic.

For the interior of furniture it is in great favour with cabinet makers who, for this purpose, prefer it to every other wood.

No 57 — **Coygué (Cherry)** from Patagones,
Argentine Republic.

This wood is specially adapted for making wheel-barrows, small felloes and also for furniture owing to its good fibre; for the latter purpose it is in favour.

No 58 — **Palo San Antonio** from Cordoba,
Argentine Republic.

Advantageously employed for handles of axes, hatchets, etc.,

and for agricultural implements, as well as for pipes, barrels and such like, also for fine mouldings, having a handsome colour. It is easily worked.

No 59 — **Orcomollo** from Cordoba, Argentine Republic.

This wood which is equally as good as the preceeding No 58, serves also for coach and cart shafts, for pipes and half-pipes to contain tallow, and for flooring: it is very similar to Maple and can be applied to the same uses as it, being of the same strength.

No 60 — **Naranjo (orange)** from the Province of Buenos Aires, Argentine Rep.

Excellent for handles and for agricultural implements; it is strong and flexible.

No 61 — **Palma Negra (Black Palm)** from Rio de Oro, Chaco, Argentine Rep.

This is used for high posts, measuring 6 to 9 metres for telegraph or telephone wires: it does not suffer either when exposed to the weather or buried in the ground; it is strong hardy and of long duration. It also serves for making walking-sticks and other articles that require strength, flexibility and resistance and at the same time lightness.

No 62 — **Coco (cocoa tree)** from San Luis, Argentine Republic.

„ 63 — **Palo Cruz** from San Luis, Argentine Republic.

- „ 64 — **Peteriguá** (or **Yellow Palm**) from
Misiones, Argentine Republ.

These three classes of wood are very good for fine moulding work, for furniture, etc., as can be seen by examining their pores and grain.

- No 65 — **Mora** from the Chaco, Argentine Republic and Paraguay.

Serves for strong work in the construction of buildings as well as for furniture and other carpentry work; also for carving, being flexible, solid and easily wrought.

- No 66 — **Tatané** from Alto Paraná, Argentine Republic.

- „ 66 — **Quirindí** from Alto Paraná, Argentine Republic and Villa Concepcion Republic of Paraguay.

Excellent woods for furniture making, mouldings picture and other frames, in fact, for all kinds of fine and fancy work.

- No 67 — **Orcocebil** from Tucuman, Argentine Republic.

This wood can be put to the same uses as No 41, which is also Cebil, only that it is harder to be worked.

There is great abundance of all the timber, samples of which I exhibit, not only in the Argentine Republic but also in Paraguay, and in a few

months orders for cargoes of whatever magnitude can be filled, be they for beams, dressed trunks or logs.

I may mention that there are many other classes of fine wood for furniture making and other work, samples of which are not in this collection, owing to their scarcity in the forests at present being felled, but are very abundant in the interior of the Chaco and which, owing to the want of means of transport, have not come in to general or common use. They are found 30 or 40 leagues in the interior and to convey them to places of embarkation or railway lines would be too expensive and enhance their cost to a value as if they were bars of gold; but, in time, when the means of conveyance that are at present being studied are put in practice, transport will be cheap not only in the Chaco, but in the Pampas, and Junin of the Andes. We will then have pitch and white pine in abundance to export, instead of, as at present, having to bring it from foreign countries; for it is well-known and authenticated that in Junin of the Andes, to the South, there are vast forests of pines, and already saw mills are being established there as well as other industrial concerns to work and trade in this very important addition to our national wealth.



